GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3109
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
UPGRADATION OF RAILWAY STATION BY PRIVATE SECTORS
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the average handling capacity of old model stations regarding trains, passengers and goods traffic;

(b) the steps taken to upgrade the railway stations equipping these with modern facilities and amenities for passengers and revenue earning goods traffic;

(c) whether the Railways propose to invite and encourage private sector including foreign investors in a big way by offering them attractive terms and packages for upgradation of major and other important railway stations within a limited timeframe; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(DR. R. VELU)

(a) to (d): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3109 BY SHRI K.S. RAO TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.12.2008 REGARDING UPGRADATION OF RAILWAY STATION BY PRIVATE SECTORS.

(a) & (b): The concept of Model Stations was initiated in 1999, when 61 important stations, almost one on each Division was selected as a Model Station for provision of higher level of passenger amenities. It was not on the basis of handling capacity of station in terms of trains, passengers or goods traffic.

Indian Railways during the 80`s made a major shift in their system of working by moving from `wagon load` concept to `rake load` concept. This necessitated augmenting goods-shed infrastructure which was primarily designed and built for wagon load, to full rake capacity.This is an on-going process on the Railways.In cases where there are constraints, alternative sites are being explored for new goods-sheds.Meanwhile Railways have undertaken a major exercise to upgrade goods-sheds.This upgradation will involve, apart from augmenting capacity,improvement to circulating area, approach road, lighting for round-the-clock working, drainage, amenities for labour and traders. Freight Operating Information System (FOIS) and telecommunication facilities shall also be provided at these locations. To begin with, 50 goods-sheds will be taken up for upgradation.

For the purpose of upgradation of amenities at identified stations under model station scheme, stations are provided with higher level of amenities called "Desirable Amenities" based on the category of the station. Model stations identified during 1999 have already been developed as model stations. Further, 26 stations have been earmarked for development as World Class stations with state-of-art station building with good architectural appearance, modern amenities like food plazas, currency exchange counter, tourist info booth, retail outlets, internet cafe, Automatic Teller Machine facilities, hotels, car rentals, etc.

(c) & (d): Development of identified stations into World Class Stations is based on public-private-partnership model by leveraging the real-estate potential of the land around and air-space above the station.